

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A strategic board game comprising: a game board ~~having~~
comprising a playing region formed with forty-two positioning spaces,
the positioning spaces ~~including~~ comprising first to seventh positioning spaces
~~that are~~ located on a common circular line and ~~that~~ are angularly spaced apart from each
other,
~~such that~~ wherein each of the first to seventh positioning spaces is located
between an adjacent pair of the first to seventh positioning spaces,
~~and such that~~ wherein each of the first to seventh positioning spaces is spaced
apart from four ~~other ones~~ of the first to seventh positioning spaces by the adjacent pair
of the first to seventh positioning spaces,
wherein each of the first to seventh positioning spaces ~~being~~ is connected to each
of the four ~~other ones~~ of the first to seventh positioning spaces by four of a total of
fourteen connecting lines that radiate from the first to seventh positioning spaces,
wherein the fourteen connecting lines ~~intersecting~~ each other at thirty-five
intersection points,
wherein the positioning spaces further ~~including~~ comprise eighth to forty-second
positioning spaces disposed respectively at the intersection points,
said strategic game board further comprising a plurality of game pieces to be
disposed on the positioning spaces, ~~respectively.~~ wherein the game pieces include first
and second sets of the game pieces, the game pieces in the first set being distinguishable
from the game pieces in the second set,
wherein each of the game pieces in the first set has a printed side printed with a
respective odd number that is in the range from 1 to 41 and that is distinct from those
printed on other game pieces in the first set,
and wherein each of the game pieces in the second set having a printed side
printed with a respective even number that is in the range from 2 to 42 and that is distinct
from those printed on other game pieces in the second set.
2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The strategic board game as claimed in claim 21, wherein the game is adapted to be played by two players, who are respectively assigned with the first and second sets of the game pieces and who take turns in placing their game pieces one at a time on the positioning spaces of the playing region of the game board,
and wherein one of the two players, whose game pieces on the playing region of the game board are the first to meet a winning condition set forth in a predetermined set of game rules, ~~being~~ is declared the winner of the game.
4. (Currently Amended) The strategic board game as claimed in claim 3, wherein the winning condition is one where the game pieces of ~~the same~~ one of the players on the playing region of the game board form any one of a plurality of predetermined winning patterns defined in the game rules.
5. (Currently Amended) The strategic board game as claimed in claim 4, wherein the predetermined winning patterns are assigned with different rankings,
wherein one of the two players, whose game pieces on the playing region of the game board are the first to form a highest-ranked ~~one of the~~ winning patterns is declared the winner of the game, and
wherein, when the game pieces of one of the two players on the playing region of the game board are the first to form a lower-ranked ~~one of the~~ winning patterns, the other of the two players is given an opportunity to make his game pieces on the playing region of the game board form a high-ranked ~~one of the~~ winning patterns, such that the other of the two players is declared the winner of the game if his game pieces are able to form the higher-ranked ~~one of the~~ winning patterns, and such that ~~said the~~ the one of the two players is declared the winner of the game if otherwise.
6. (Currently Amended) The strategic board game as claimed in claim 5, wherein each of the winning patterns is formed from six to eight ~~ones~~ of the positioning spaces, wherein the winning patterns formed from six of the positioning spaces ~~being~~ is ranked higher than those formed from seven of the positioning spaces, and wherein the winning patterns formed from seven of the positioning spaces ~~being~~ are ranked higher than those formed from eight of the positioning spaces.
7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The strategic board game as claimed in claim 7~~1~~, wherein the game is ~~adapted to be~~ played by two players, who are respectively assigned with the first and second sets of the game pieces and who take turns in placing their game pieces one at a time on the positioning spaces of the playing region of the game board, with the printed side of each of the game pieces facing upwardly,
wherein one of the two players, whose game pieces on the playing region of the game board are the first to meet a winning condition set forth in a predetermined set of game rules, being declared the winner of the game,
wherein the winning condition is one where the game pieces of the ~~same~~ one of the players on the playing region of the game board fill any six of the positioning spaces that form any one of a plurality of predetermined winning patterns defined in the game rules, with the sum of the numbers printed on the game pieces that fill ~~said~~ any six of the positioning spaces being equal to a predetermined total.
9. (Original) The strategic board game as claimed in claim 8, wherein each of the first and second sets includes twenty-one of the game pieces.
10. (Currently Amended) The strategic board game as claimed in claim 9~~8~~, wherein the predetermined total is 100.
11. (Original) The strategic board game as claimed in claim 8, wherein, when all of the positioning spaces of the playing region of the game board are filled by the game pieces of the two players, and the game pieces of each of the two players are unable to fulfill the winning condition where the sum of the numbers printed on the game pieces that fill ~~said~~ any six of the positioning spaces is equal to the predetermined total, the winning condition is changed to one where the game pieces of the same one of the players on the playing region of the game board fill any six of the positioning spaces of the game board that form any one of the predetermined winning patterns defined in the game rules.
12. (Currently Amended) The strategic game board as claimed in claim 2~~1~~, wherein the game pieces in the first set are distinguishable from the game pieces in the second set by color.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)